

WHAT IS ANNEXATION?

Annexation is a process cities follow to add adjacent properties to their jurisdiction.



WHY ANNEX?

Annexation brings funds to invest in our community. A portion of certain taxes paid by residents to the State of Arizona, such as State income tax and State sales tax, are given back to the cities to pay for services such as police, fire, parks and recreation, and transportation.

BENEFITS OF JOINING THE CITY OF TUCSON:

■ Fire Protection & Emergency Medical Response

Tucson Fire Department is unmatched in our community in terms of training, resources, and staffing. With more than 600 firefighters, 22 fire stations, state-of-the-art medical and firefighting equipment, excellent training programs, and an extensive fire hydrant system, Tucson Fire is the highest rated department in Southern Arizona.

■ Police Protection

Tucson Police Department's average response time for Priority-1 calls is under 5 minutes. The Police Department has approximately 1,000 highly trained officers who work hard to keep neighborhoods safe and respond quickly to emergencies as they arise. The Tucson Police Department is accredited by the highly regarded Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies.

■ Trash & Recycling Collection

The City's Environmental Services weekly collection service includes same-day pickup of both trash and recyclables. A monthly fee between \$15 and \$16.75 covers this service plus twice-a-year Brush & Bulky pickup, where you can set out up to 10 cubic yards of materials for collection, including tree limbs, cacti, lumber, old appliances, furniture, carpet, tires, and metal drums.

■ Neighborhood Services

The City of Tucson helps interested neighborhoods form neighborhood associations, and supports the associations by mailing newsletters, keeping them informed of important city issues, and assisting with code enforcement.

■ Participation in City Elections and Decisions

Joining the City of Tucson gives you a voice in decisions and issues that are governed by the City of Tucson, many of which impact the entire region.

WHAT DOES NOT CHANGE WITH ANNEXATION?

Water & Sewer Service

Water and wastewater (sewer) service for your area will not change when you join the City of Tucson. Wells and septic tanks are not affected.

Zoning Intensity

Upon annexation, State law requires the City to convert County Zoning into the most equivalent City Zoning without adding intensity or density.

School Districts

Your school district will not change with annexation.

WHY IS THE CITY INTERESTED IN ANNEXATION?

Annexation brings funds to invest in our community. A portion of certain taxes paid by residents to the State of Arizona, such as State income tax and State sales tax, are given back to the cities to pay for services such as police, fire, parks and recreation, and transportation. These payments are calculated based on population within each city.

Pima County has a large population that lives outside a city or town, for which we do not receive these funds. This is money that is paid by Pima County residents to the State that does NOT come back to the Tucson region.

How much money are we talking about?

With more than 300,000 people living outside the Tucson city limits, this amounts to tens of millions of dollars every year. This is money that we already pay to the State and could be used in our community to invest in police, fire, roads, and parks.

Sales tax is the City's largest source of revenue. Many retailers in our region are outside the City limits and therefore collect only State sales tax, but no City sales tax. This hurts our community. For businesses that are located within City limits that have competitors just outside City limits, it's an equity issue. Annexation levels the playing field for businesses and helps strengthen the City's economic base.